



Truro Community Emergency Plan

Truro City Council's City Emergency Committee has put together a Community Emergency Plan (CEP), which has been designed to prepare communities for unexpected incidents that are non life-threatening, but may affect property and human well-being.

Truro is covered by Cornwall Council's emergency procedures, and although it is not a statutory requirement for local councils to produce a plan, it is good practice for there to be a scheme to cover incidents such as flooding, heatwaves, power outages, etc.

As a city lying on the confluence of three rivers and at the head of an estuary, Truro is prone to flooding. We have some 'hard' solutions in place that, at present, are adequate to protect us. However, climate change will result in sea level rise and increased extreme weather events, and we need to be prepared for area limited fluvial flooding, and flash floods can occur anywhere. If Truro floods, other places nearby may be more severely affected and the emergency services will focus on danger to life and limb.

A flood plan broadly covers all aspects of a community emergency, but we will be adding detail to cover other scenarios, eg. heat waves, transport infrastructure problems, pandemics, etc.

A CEP needs the support of members of the community in a variety of roles, and some potential safe spaces for temporary evacuation of people whose homes are affected. It also needs people to be personally prepared for unexpected events.

A CEP is not a major incident plan, where the statutory services take control. No volunteer should put themselves in danger or impede emergency services in their activities. Our aim is to minimize the distress to those affected, with people returning to their homes and normal lives as soon as possible.

See below for roles for volunteers:

- Co-ordinator - probably an officer of the city council, who will alert flood wardens, etc, and liaise with Environment Agency and statutory services
- Flood wardens - to monitor river levels, alert residents who are at risk of flooding (or from other hazards), identify vulnerable people
- Key holders of community spaces and other sanctuary sites - to welcome people in and point out kettles, chairs, etc.
- People to help in sanctuary areas - offer a friendly ear, make tea, etc.
- An IT person to set up network groups, eg. What's App, and organise charging points for people's devices and help them contact family

- Other roles may be required 'on the day', eg. businesses to supply food, blankets etc, and translators
- People with 4 x 4 vehicles and other transport providers
- Skilled trades people, eg. electricians, plumbers, builders, for the post event clean up, as well as hirers of equipment, like driers. These people are not expected to be volunteers but the sharing of their details with plan administrators will be very useful.

If you would like to volunteer, or would like more information, please contact Cllr Lindsay Southcombe on lindsay@transitiontruro.org.uk.

You can also find more information in our free Truro Community Emergency Plan leaflets. They are available to collect from Truro Community Library or the Truro Visitor Information Centre. These will provide more details on how to prepare for an emergency, and list useful contact numbers.

Furthermore, there will be an opportunity to meet members of the committee and gain more information at the Truro Community Emergency Plan open event at the Moresk Centre on Wednesday 21st September.

The event will take place between 19.00 and 21.00.

For further updates, please follow us on Facebook [@trurocitycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/trurocitycouncil) and see our website: www.truro.gov.uk